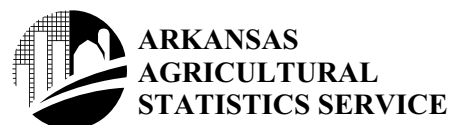


ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



Released: September 22, 2004

**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS DOWN 1 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

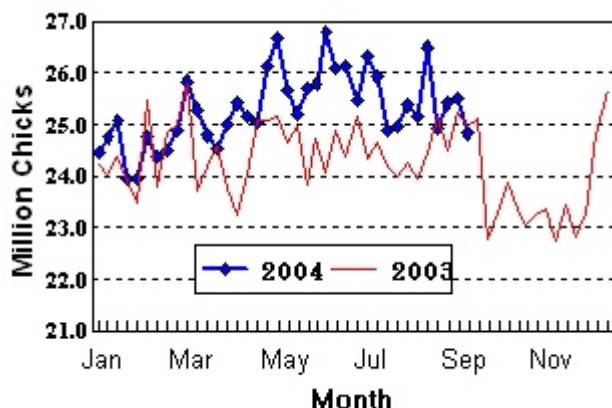
Broiler-type **chicks placed** for meat production in Arkansas was 24.8 million during the week ending September 18, 2004. Placements were down 1 percent from the comparable week in 2003, and down 3 percent from the previous week, and included 3.1 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through September 18, 2004 were 962.1 million, up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type **chicks hatched** for the week was 25.9 million, up 5 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, but down 1 percent from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 3.9 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 82.2 percent.

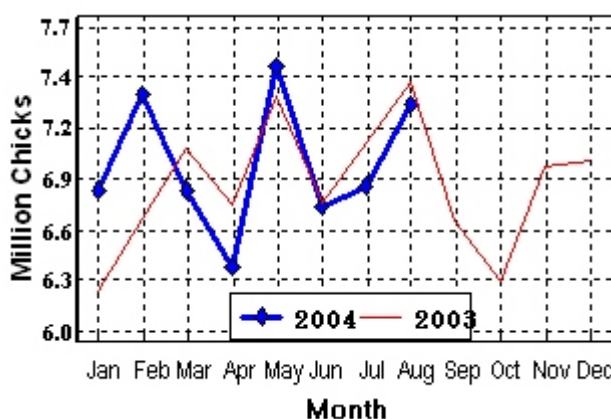
Arkansas hatcheries **set** 30.8 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending September 18, 2004, up 1 percent from the same period last year, and up 6 percent from the previous week.

Leading breeders in the **UNITED STATES** placed 7.3 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during August 2004, down 2 percent from August 2003.

**ARKANSAS BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS
BY WEEK, 2003- 2004**



**U.S. BROILER-TYPE PULLET CHICKS PLACED
FOR DOMESTIC HATCHERY SUPPLY FLOCKS**



NET PLACEMENTS IN ARKANSAS

Week Ending	Year		% Change
	2003	2004	
	1,000		
Aug. 14	23,973	25,208	105
Aug. 21	24,485	26,539	108
Aug. 28	25,172	24,919	99
Sep. 4	24,513	25,421	104
Sep. 11	25,253	25,536	101
Sep. 18	24,972	24,846	99

U.S. PULLET CHICKS PLACED

Month	Year		% Change
	2003	2004	
	1,000		
Mar.	7,038	6,815	97
Apr.	6,735	6,402	95
May	7,323	7,492	102
Jun.	6,748	6,727	100
Jul.	7,071	6,834	97
Aug.	7,401	7,280	98

BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2004

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/ %	Week Ending						1/ %
	28-Aug	04-Sep	11-Sep	18-Sep		14-Aug	21-Aug	28-Aug	04-Sep	11-Sep	18-Sep	
Alabama	29,870 *	30,262	28,658	28,557	106	21,752	21,526	21,657	21,911	21,825	21,352	98
ARKANSAS	31,540	31,753	28,990	30,823	101	25,208	26,539	24,919	25,421	25,536	24,846	99
Delaware	3,693	3,628	3,546	3,250	98	5,018	4,912	5,369 *	4,897	4,719	5,096	110
Florida	1,339	1,339	1,339	1,349	100	1,589	1,467	1,313	1,182	1,359 *	1,298	80
Georgia	33,477 *	32,843	32,697 *	31,989	103	26,398	26,850	27,485	26,594	27,180 *	27,310	108
Kentucky	7,169 *	6,680 *	6,477	6,204	103	6,216	6,397	6,389	5,678 *	6,012 *	5,982	103
Louisiana	3,968	3,967	3,833	3,918	102	3,674	3,719	3,914	3,839	3,662	4,126	125
Maryland	8,771 *	8,762	7,893	7,872	97	5,743	6,119	5,468 *	5,858	6,020	5,557	84
Mississippi	18,790	19,340	18,472	18,374	104	17,570	17,179	17,055	17,576	17,194 *	16,006	103
N. Carolina	17,988 *	17,710	17,492 *	17,107	110	14,724	14,629	14,135	14,331	14,715 *	14,270	108
Oklahoma	6,478	6,583	6,530	6,277	99	5,122	5,038	4,693	4,857	5,021	6,721	157
Pennsylvania	3,951	3,877 *	3,637 *	3,632	109	2,828	2,875	2,747	2,830 *	2,894 *	2,887	107
S. Carolina	4,131	4,136	3,938 *	4,208	94	4,160	4,661	4,242	4,772	3,789 *	4,026	92
Texas	15,299	15,268	14,829	13,315	102	12,876	12,705	12,874	12,774	12,702	12,731	105
Virginia	6,612	6,205	6,620	5,839	96	5,380	5,209	5,483	5,408	5,401	5,518	111
CA,MO,IN,WV	17,362 *	17,028 *	17,298 *	15,396	98	16,484	15,892	17,457	16,302 *	16,164 *	14,925	103
Total 2004	210,438 *	209,381 *	202,249 *	198,110		174,742	175,717	175,200 *	174,230 *	174,193 *	172,651	
Total 2003	203,135	200,711	195,084	193,335		169,515	169,295	169,271	168,221	168,773	165,761	
%Prev. Year	104	104	104	102		103	104	104	104	103	104	
Approximate Marketing Date 2004.....						02-Oct	09-Oct	16-Oct	23-Oct	30-Oct	06-Nov	

* Revised . 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 198 million eggs during the week ending September 18, 2004. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 4 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 173 million chicks for meat production during the week ending September 18, 2004. Placements were up 4 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 28, 2003 through September 18, 2004 were 6.56 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.